VIA FACSIMILE:

703-308-4426

GI 5288B

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

LaVallie and Racie

Serial No.

08/949,904

Examiner

: S. Unga

October 15, 1997

Group Art Unit

: 1642

For

Filed

HUMAN SDF-5 PROTEIN AND COMPOSITIONS

August 10, 1998

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

COMMUNICATION

Dear Sirs:

Applicants make this communication by facsimile to confirm the telephone conversation with Examiner Ungar in which Applicants elected to prosecute the species (a) of Group IV, not Group II as earlier communicated. This election of species is made with traversal because the species (a) and (b) are related as they both encode proteins of the SDF-5 family, and any search of one will necessarily involve the exact same art. Those skilled in the art would readily know that polypeptide sequences of these species are closely related. Accordingly the claims of Group IV, V and VI should be examined together.

Respectfully submitted,

GENETICS INSTITUTE, INC. Legal Affairs Department 87 CambridgePark Drive Cambridge, MA 02140 (617)-498-8260

Steven R. Lazar Reg. No. 32,618 Attorney for Applicants